

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**On page 1, after Field of The Invention, please substitute the following paragraph:**

The invention relates generally to the changes in gene expression in human tissues, which bring about improved survival in conditions of reduced blood flow and oxygen supply. The invention relates specifically to the pharmacological activation of hypoxia-inducible gene expression by 2-oxoacids and their derivatives. ~~This application is related to U.S. Provisional Application 60/517,918 which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.~~

**On page 1, after the paragraph following the Field of the Invention and before the Background of the Invention, please insert the following paragraph:**

**Related Applications**

The present application is a U.S. National Phase Application of International Application PCT/US2004/037045 (filed November 8, 2004) which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/517,918 (filed November 7, 2003), all of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

**After page 40, please add the attached abstract of the disclosure.**